



**U.S. Department of Justice**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**MAN SENTENCED TO 125 MONTHS FOR BANK ROBBERY  
AND USE OF A FIREARM**

BALTIMORE, Maryland - Allen F. Loucks, United States Attorney for the District of Maryland, announced that today U.S. District Court Chief Judge Benson E. Legg sentenced Traquan Johnson, age 23, of Baltimore, Maryland to 125 months in prison followed by 5 years of supervised release in connection with his guilty plea to bank robbery and brandishing a firearm during a crime of violence.

According to the agreed statement of facts presented to the court, on July 22, 2004 co-defendant Ronald Stewart, age 42, of Baltimore, Maryland entered the First Mariner Bank located at 1738 York Road, Lutherville, Maryland armed with a semi-automatic handgun. He advised the tellers that "this is a holdup" and "don't anybody push any buttons or I will kill you." Johnson entered the bank lobby a few seconds later. Stewart then demanded money from the tellers and pointed the firearm at the heads of the tellers, threatening them while obtaining money from their cash drawers. Johnson stood behind Stewart and held an object that was fashioned to look like an explosive device. Johnson obtained money from the cash drawers and then passed the device over

the counter to Stewart. Persons in the bank were advised that they better get out. Johnson and Stewart then left the bank and got into a vehicle. Police located the defendants and vehicle, and recovered currency from the robbery and the firearm used in the commission of the robbery. The total amount taken during the bank robbery was \$6,516.

Both defendants gave statements admitting to the robbery of First Mariner Bank, along with the following bank robberies: July 15, 2004, Citizens Bank, 2124 South Queen Street, York, PA - \$3,833; and July 8, 2004, M&T Bank, 9780 Groffs Mill Drive, Owings Mills, MD - \$20,484. The co-defendant Ronald Stewart plead guilty to bank robbery and brandishing a firearm during a crime of violence in the United States District Court on November 15, 2004 and is pending sentencing. Ronald Stewart also admitted to committing a total of seven bank robberies in Maryland and Pennsylvania, three of which were committed with Traquan Johnson.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigations and was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney A. David Copperthite.